Message Text

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PAGE 01 HAVANA 00784 071909Z ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-12 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 /109 W -------082500 071910Z /46

P R 071522Z DEC 77
FM USINT HAVANA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 682
INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI MZ RH CU

SUBJECT: CUBANS CONDEMN RHODESIAN INCURSION INTO MOZAMBIQUE

1. GRANMA, DECEMBER 6, CARRIES SHORT DECLARATION OF CUBAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFIARS BELATEDLY CONDEMNING RECENT RHODESION INCURSION INTO MOZAMBIQUE. (DECLARATION IS DATED DECEMBER 2.)
DECLARATION OMITS MENTION OF EARLIER REPORTED CASUALTY FIGURE OF 1000 ZIMBABWE LIBERATION FORCES MEMBERS, AND STATES ONLY THAT THERE WERE A HIGH NUMBER OF CIVILIAN VICTIMS INCLUDING ONE HUNDRED CHILDREN. CUBA REITERATES ITS "UNRESTRICTED SUPPORT FOR SAMORA MACHEL-DIRECTED GOVERNMENT" AND CALLS FOR INCREASE OF MATERIAL AND POLITICAL SUPPORT FOR MOZAMBIQUE FROM INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND ESPECIALLY NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT.

2. COMMENT: DECLARATION IS BRIEF AND NON-SPECIFIC WITH REGARD TO ADDITIONAL CUBAN SUPPORT, IF ANY, THAT WILL BE PROVIDED. SENIOR CUBAN OFFICIAL HAS TOLD US THAT FIDEL CASTRO IS EXTREMELY RELUCTANT TO ISSUE PUBLIC POLICY STATEMENTS GENERALLY AND MAY BE EVEN MORE SO NOW AFTER CUBAN DECLARATION ON SOMALI-ETHIOPIAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONFLICT (HAVANA 535) BACKFIRED WITH SOMALI DECISION TO BREAK RELATIONS. LACK OF REFERENCE TO HELP FROM SOCIALIST NATIONS MAY BE BOTH (A) EFFORT ON CUBANS' PART TO PROMOTE THEIR OWN NON-ALIGNED IMAGE IN WAKE OF RECENT DAMAGING USG STATEMENTS ON CUBAN PRESENCE IN AFRICA AS WELL AS (B) EFFORT NOT TO ANGER SAMORA MACHEL (WHO CUBANS PRIVATELY STATE HAS NOT FULLY OPTED FOR ALIGNMENT WITH USSR/EE). REFERENCE TO CUBAN BACKING OF SAMORA MACHEL PERSON-

ALLY, RATHER THAN FRELIMO OR MOZAMBIQUE, MAY BE INTENDED TO COUNTER ANY SUSPICION THAT CUBAN BACKING OF ZAPU IS AIMED TO COMPETE WITH SAMORA MACHEL'S PROMOTION OF ZANU. LANE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
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TAGS: MILI, MZ, RH, CU

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